

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: HU, CZ, YO, BEXP

SUBJECT: PAN ADRIA PIPELINE

1. HUNGARIAN DAILY VILAGGAZDASAG IN JUNE 21 ISSUE REPORTS
SIGNING IN BUDAPEST OF HUNGARIAN-CZECHOSLOVAK STATE AGREEMENT
ON CONSTRUCTION OF HUNGARIAN-CZECHOSLOVAK EXTENSION OF PAN
ADRIA PIPELINE. (SIGNERS WERE SANDOR UDVARDI AND ALOIS HLOCH,
DEPUTY FOREIGN TRADE MINISTERS.) ACCORDING STORY, CONSTRUCTION
OF LINE FROM YUGOSLAV BORDER THROUGH HUNGARY TO BEGIN AT END
OF THIS YEAR AND WHOLE PROJECT IS TO BE COMPLETED BY END OF
1976. SAME PAPER IN SEPARATE STORY QUOTES DEPUTY PREMIER TIMAR
STATEMENT THAT LINE WILL BEGIN OPERATIONS IN 1977. TOTAL COST
OF PAN ADRIA PROJECT, INCLUDING YUGOSLAV PORTION, ACCORDING
TIMAR, IS 300 MILLION DOLLARS.

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2. JUNE 16 NEPSZABADSAG REPORTS GENERAL OUTLINE OF PLAN FOR BUILDING PIPELINE FROM YUGOSLAV BORDER TO CZECHOSLOVAK BORDER HAS BEEN COMPLETED. LENGTH OF LINE FROM YUGOSLAV BORDER TO SZAZHALOMBATTA TO BE 190 KM., DIAMETER OF PIPE 600 MM. HUNGARIAN KOOLAJVEZETEK VALLALAT OF SIOFOK WILL BUILD PIPELINE, ACCORDING STORY. FROM SZAZHALOMBATTA TO SLOVAKIA EXISTING FRIENDSHIP I WILL BE USED. ACCORDING NEPSZABADSAG, MOST SIGNIFICANT INVESTMENT ON HUNGARIAN LINE WILL BE AT CSURGO, WHERE OIL ENTERS FROM YUGOSLAVIA. COST OF CONSTRUCTION TO BE SHARED EQUALLY BY HUNGARY AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA. IN ADDITION, THESE COUNTRIES EACH PROVIDING YUGOSLAVIA WITH CREDIT OF 25 MILLION DOLLARS TO HELP FINANCE ITS PART OF PROJECT.

ACTION REQUESTED: NOW THAT GENERAL PLAN FOR HUNGARIAN PORTION OF PAN ADRIA PROJECT APPEARS TO BE READY, WE WOULD LIKE TO KNOW WHAT PART OF EQUIPMENT REQUIRED WILL BE SUPPLIED BY WESTERN SOURCES AND WOULD THEREFORE BE OPEN TO U.S. FIRMS. REQUEST EMBASSY BUDAPEST CHECK WITH PROPER AUTHORITIES. WE WOULD APPRECIATE SIMILAR INFORMATION FROM EMBASSY PRAGUE ON CZECHOSLOVAK SECTION OF PIPELINE, IF IT IS AVAILABLE. FYI: U.S. FIRM, BECHTEL CORPORATION, HAS BEEN AND CONTINUES TO BE INVOLVED IN YUGOSLAV PORTION OF ADRIATIC PROJECT. OTHER U.S. COMPANIES MAY BECOME INVOLVED IN YUGOSLAV SECTION. END FYI.
NGERSOLL

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